First Presbyterian Church

Spartanburg, SC



January 14, 2024

Service for the Lord's Day

8:30am Early

9:00am Contemporary

11:00am Traditional

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church!

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church Spartanburg – we are delighted that you are joining us for worship today! First Presbyterian is a community of believers in the heart of Spartanburg seeking to know and share the transformative love of Jesus Christ with others. Here you will encounter people who come from all walks of life representing diverse beliefs and faith experiences. What binds us together is our common hope in Jesus Christ. Through worship, study, fellowship, and mission we seek to root our lives in scripture, nurture our unity in Christ, and serve our neighbors in faith! No matter who you are or where you are on your spiritual journey, know that you are welcome here.

Peace,

Rev. Alan F. Dyer
Senior Pastor

If You Are New Here Whether you are searching for a church home or visiting from out-of-town, we are delighted that you are worshiping with us today. If you are interested in receiving more information about membership or the ministries of our congregation, please be sure to speak with a pastor before or after today's worship or fill out the friendship register. We would love to get to know you better!

Pastoral Concern? Please let us know how we can be praying for you by visiting with a pastor before or after worship. If you need to contact a Minister, call 864-208-2142 day or night.

Children of all ages are welcome in worship!

Blue Worship Activity Bags, located in the welcoming areas of each worship venue, are available for your child to use during worship. After worship, please return the crayons and bags to the baskets. The activity sheet is for your child to keep.

A Nursery is available for infants through age 3 in the Clark Bldg, Rooms 105 (Toddler) and 108 (Crib).

After *The Word for Children* in the 11:00am Traditional Service, children 3K-1st grade may attend Children's Worship with Ms. Kara. After the service, families are asked to pick their children up from Room 202 of the Clark Building.

To Aid in Worship Advanced listening technology, large-print hymnals, and large-print bulletins are available upon request for the Chapel and Sanctuary. Please locate an usher for assistance.

Worship Online Livestreaming of the Contemporary and Traditional Worship Services is available at fpcspartanburg.org/worship. Additionally, sermons are on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Amazon Music, or wherever you find your podcasts!

Ways to Give There are many ways you can support the missions and ministries of First Presbyterian. During worship, you may place your gift in the Offering Plate or you can scan this QR Code; it will direct you to our online giving portal. Additionally, you may mail a check to the church office (address on back of bulletin). Thank you for your gifts. *Questions? Contact Church Financial Officer Lynise Clarke; 864-208-2130/lclarke@fpcspartanburg.org.*

Early Worship
8:30am
Chapel

Gathering Around the Word

Welcome and Invitation — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

This is the day that the Lord has made;
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Opening Voluntary — *Allegro Maestoso From Sonata II* — Felix Mendelssohn

✙Call to Worship — Dr. Lewis F. Galloway

Come and see the grace of God,
Christ our teacher and our friend.
Come and see the son of God,
Christ our healer and salvation.
God is moving in this place.
Come and see! Come and see.

✙Hymn 667 — *When Morning Gilds the Skies* — Laudes Domini

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, you see into each of us and know us fully
as people in need of your constant care.
We confess that we have neither heard your word nor followed your will.
We have failed our neighbors, families, friends, and ourselves.
Give us ears to hear your wisdom. Grant us grace and lead us to faith
so that we may begin again with renewed strength.

Silent Confession

Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote that "he who is alone with his sin is utterly alone." But we are not alone with our sin. That's why we confess our sin together, that we might share each other's burdens, and that we might be renewed in God's grace and called to lives of joyful devotion - together.

Assurance of Pardon

God searches us, knows us, loves us, and forgives us.
God's love shelters us and keeps us safe.
Hear the good news of the Gospel:
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

✙Response

Hymn 581 — Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

✙Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.
Let us greet one another as we share the love and peace of Christ.

✙ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Life of the Church

In our baptism God has called and sealed us. Baptism is an important event not simply in the life of the child and family, but in the life of the whole church. We are baptized into a community, not in abstraction from the community.

Sacrament of Baptism — *Henry Elston White*, *Son of Kate and Taylor White* — Charlotte Verreault, Elder; Savannah Pinilla, Reader

Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading — John 1:43-51

Sermon — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith
The Apostles' Creed — Hymnal Page 35

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory — *Softly and Tenderly* — Dale Wood

✠Doxology
Hymn 606 — Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayers of the People
The Lord's Prayer — Hymnal Page 35

Bearing the Word to the World

In the charge and benediction we are assured of God's peace and blessing; we seek to follow Christ's way, sustained by power of the Holy Spirit. God calls the church to join the mission of Christ in service to the world. As we engage in that mission, we bear witness to God's eternal reign.

✠Hymn 757 — *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples* — Kingsfold

✠Charge and Benediction

✠Benediction Response
Hymn 175 — *Seek Ye First* — Lafferty

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

Closing Voluntary — *Fugue in C from Sonata II* — Felix Mendelssohn

Following the service, you are invited to a time of coffee and fellowship in The Perrin Room.

Contemporary Worship
9:00am
Fogartie Hall

Welcome		Rev. Leslie A. Lang
✞Call to Worship		
✞Song of Praise		*A Thousand Hallelujahs*
Prayer of Confession		
Sung Assurance of Pardon		*O Come To The Altar*
✞Passing of the Peace		
Life of the Church		
Children's Time		
Anthem		*All the Way My Savior Leads Me*
First Reading	Psalm 139:1-6	
Second Reading	John 1:43-51	
Sermon		Rev. Alan F. Dyer
Prayers of the People The Lord's Prayer		
✞Closing Song		*I Will Follow*
✞Benediction		

Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote that "he who is alone with his sin is utterly alone." But we are not alone with our sin. That's why we confess our sin together, that we might share each other's burdens, and that we might be renewed in God's grace and called to lives of joyful devotion - together.

✞ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Traditional Worship
11:00am
Sanctuary

Gathering Around the Word

Welcome and Invitation — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

This is the day that the Lord has made;
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Opening Voluntary — *Allegro Maestoso from Sonata II* — Felix Mendelssohn

Acolyte — Sadie Moore

Introit

Hymn 29 — *O God, You Search Me* — O God, You Search Me

✙Call to Worship — Dr. Lewis F. Galloway

Come and see the grace of God,
Christ our teacher and our friend.
Come and see the son of God,
Christ our healer and salvation.
God is moving in this place.
Come and see! Come and see.

✙Hymn 667 — *When Morning Glids the Skies* — Laudes Domini

Prayer of Confession — Rev. Ansley B. Page

Holy God, you see into each of us and know us fully
as people in need of your constant care.
We confess that we have neither heard your word nor followed your will.
We have failed our neighbors, families, friends, and ourselves.
Give us ears to hear your wisdom. Grant us grace and lead us to faith
so that we may begin again with renewed strength.

Silent Confession

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Assurance of Pardon

God searches us, knows us, loves us, and forgives us.
God's love shelters us and keeps us safe.
Hear the good news of the Gospel:
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

✙ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

✠Response

Hymn 581 — Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, amen.

✠Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another as we share the love and peace of Christ.

Life of the Church

Proclaiming the Word

The Word for Children — Rev. Leslie A. Lang

Prayer for Illumination

Hymn 543 — *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me* — Green Tyler

First Reading — Psalm 139:1-6 — Nora Biber

Second Reading — John 1:43-51

Sermon — Rev. Alan F. Dyer

Responding to the Word

✠Affirmation of Faith

In forming his people and sending them into the world, Jesus called individuals to be disciples. They were to share the joy of his companionship, to understand and obey his teachings, and to follow him in life and death. We confess that Christians today are called to discipleship. Life shared with Christ and shaped by Christ is God's undeserved gift to each of us. It is also God's demand upon every one of us, never perfectly fulfilled by any of us. Forgiven by God and supported by brothers and sisters, we strive to become more faithful and effective in our daily practice of the Christian life.

We don't just pray the Lord's Prayer for ourselves, we pray it on behalf of the world—those who don't have their daily bread and those who are burdened by debt. We are called to be God's answer to this prayer.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Open My Eyes* K. Lee Scott

✠Doxology

Hymn 606 Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

✠Prayer of Thanksgiving

Bearing the Word to the World

✠Hymn 757 *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples* Kingsfold

In the charge and benediction we are assured of God's peace and blessing; we seek to follow Christ's way, sustained by power of the Holy Spirit. God calls the church to join the mission of Christ in service to the world. As we engage in that mission, we bear witness to God's eternal reign.

✠Charge and Benediction

✠Benediction Response

Hymn 175 *Seek Ye First* Lafferty

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!

Closing Voluntary *Fugue in C from Sonata II* Felix Mendelssohn

<u>The Flowers in the Sanctuary</u>

are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of

Oren Judy

by Linda Martin, Randy Judy, John Judy, and Joan Gibson.

Life of the Church
Sunday, January 14, 2024

Unity Week Celebration
Sunday, January 14 at 3pm
MLK Community Celebration
Spartanburg District 7 Fine Arts Center

*A group of First Presbyterian members will sit together at the Community Celebration. Anyone who wants to join us can meet in the lobby of the Fine Arts Center at 2:45pm today.

Monday, January 15
United Way Day of Service *(Church Facilities Closed)*

A Day of Service Community Breakfast will be served at Dr. TK Gregg Community Center at 8am. Breakfast will be provided free of charge by Denny's Mobile Relief Diner.

Lunch with Jeffrey Blount
First Presbyterian Church invites you to join in a lively and thoughtful conversation with award-winning author and Emmy award-winning television director, Jeffrey Blount in the Social Hall Sunday, January 21 at 12:30pm. His latest novel, *Mr. Jimmy From Around the Way*, is an activist work that confronts many of the big societal issues of today and offers a road map to dealing with the struggles, and that journey begins with something we can all support - the Activism of Kindness. Lunch will be $10. **Register by Monday, January 15** at fpcspartanburg.org/jeffreyblount or scan the QR code.

100 Years of Scouting
Scout Sunday is February 4th. All scouts (past and present), scout leaders, families, and supporters of scouting are invited to a reception after 11:00am worship. If you have been a part of BSA Troop 2, we would love to see photos of your favorite scouting memories. Please visit fpcspartanburg.org/scouts or scan the QR code for more information.

DR Wish List
As the Dominican Republic Mission Trip approaches, we are collecting "wish list" items for the Guest House. Please bring donations to the mission closet across from the library. Items Requested: Italian dressing seasoning, coffee filters (10-12 cup size), black trash bags (33 gallons), packaged snacks, cereal, nuts, dried fruit, liquid hand soap, chocolate chips, cake mix (yellow, chocolate, white), vanilla frosting, gallon zip lock bags.

Wednesdays at First
Join us starting at 5pm for Wednesdays at First (WAF). Dinner reservations and more information can be found at fpcspartanburg.org/waf. This week, after-dinner Health Series program will teach us about investments and planning for retirement. More things can affect your health than diseases. Join Brooks Crenshaw and Virginia Wood for this engaging conversation at 6:30pm!

New Year, New Studies
If you are looking for a Bible or book study group, First Presbyterian offers something for everyone. For a complete list, please visit fpcspartanburg.org/discipleship-groups.

Why Jesus? Study
Will Willimon has been a leading pastor, author, professor, and bishop in the United Methodist Church for decades. Join Pastor Craig on Tuesdays or Thursdays through March 14 from 12:00-1:00pm in the Purnell Room and via Zoom to study Willimon's book *Why Jesus?* Willimon will be preaching at First Presbyterian in March. Scan the QR code or visit fpcspartanburg.org/whyjesus for more information and to purchase your copy of the book.

Younger Women's Bible Study

Younger Women's Bible Study meets Wednesdays from 6:00-7:00pm or Thursdays from 9:15-10:15am. Contact Rev. Leslie Lang (llang@fpcspartanburg.org), Donna Pulliam, or Carter Smith for details.

Christians in the Making

All are welcome to join Wednesdays from 10:00-11:30am in the Purnell Room or by Zoom to study Amy Jill Levine's *Entering the Passion of Jesus, A Beginners Guide to Holy Week*.

Tickled Pink

Returning Tuedsay, January 23 at 9:15am in Fogartie Hall! Come to connect around laughter, learning, and loving Jesus.

Acts 2 Fellowship

Spend time around the table, breaking bread with friends and serving others! February's Acts 2 Fellowship will include a service project along with lunch/dinner to honor Witness Season. Scan the QR Code or visit fpcspartanburg.org/acts2 to register by February 12.

News from Shepherd's Center

The Shepherd's Center of Spartanburg now partners with Medicare Advantage plans; Silver Sneakers, Renew Active, Active & Fit, and Silver & Fit! If you have any of these plans, you can now sign up and your monthly membership fee will be paid for you!

Congregational Meeting

On Sunday, January 28, immediately following 11:00am Worship, we will elect at-large members to the Congregational Nominating Committee and to approve Pastors' Terms of Call for 2024, and a meeting of the Corporation for the purpose of electing the Session class of 2026 and Chair of the Diaconate to the Corporation's Board of Trustees.

Our Year in Review

Join us Wednesday, January 31, at 6:30pm in Fogartie Hall, to receive reports on the ministries of the church from the Clerk of Session, the Diaconate, and the Finance Committee.

Connect in Sunday School

Abide (Room 2200)
For younger adults and parents of preschool/elementary children to gather for a time of fellowship and learning.

Bible Alive (Room 2208)
An extensive book-by-book study of the Bible

Emmaus (Room 2207)
A journey with eyes open towards Jesus, with fellowship and a fresh new scripture-based lesson each week.

Glory Days (Purnell Room)
Parents of youth and collegiates, come strengthen your faith and friendship with condensed stand-alone Bible lessons from dynamic teachers. Together we'll discover the blessings in the busy!

LIFT - Life in Fellowship Together (Room 2201)
Faithful disciples who love growing deeper in faith through Bible study and trusting Jesus.

Churchwide Day of Service

On Saturday, April 13, we will be holding our Second Annual Churchwide Day of Service! We will gather at the church at 8:30am for coffee and a brief devotion. From 9:00am-12:00pm, people will serve in various local organizations around Spartanburg. Come back at noon for lunch and a debrief together, and we will finish by 1:00pm. $20/person or $75 for families of four or more. Price includes lunch, supplies, and a Day of Service t-shirt. (Scholarships available - contact Pastor Leslie for more info). Scan the QR code or visit fpcspartanburg.org/dayofservice to register by March 30. There will be service projects for all ages. Childcare available upon request for ages 6 and younger.

Joining First Presbyterian

If you would like to become a member of First Presbyterian Church, please make your way to the **Church Parlor at 10:30am today, January 14**. Ministers and members of the Session will be there to greet you and welcome you into the membership of the church. Questions? Contact Cathy Bagwell, Volunteer and New Member Coordinator, at cbagwell@fpcspartanburg.org.

Gym Hours

Mondays-Thursdays: 7am-8pm; Fridays: 7am-2pm; Saturdays: 8am-12noon

Chapel Open

The Chapel is open for Prayer Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm, for you to come and sit and pray in the stillness of God. You may place any personal prayer needs in the Chapel prayer box and a member of our staff

Sunday School - 10am
(Gathering Time - 9:45am)

Children and Youth

Nursery – *Room C105 (Clark Building)*
Preschool ***(3K-5K)*** **–** *Room C110 (Clark Building)*
1st & 2nd Grade - *Room C202*
3rd & 4th Grade - *Room C203*
5th Grade - *Room C206*
Youth - *Second Floor of the Family Life Center*

Adult Sunday School

Abide – *Room 2200*
Bible Alive – *Room 2208*
Emmaus – *Room 2207*
Glory Days – *Purnell Room*
L.I.F.T. – *Room 2201*

Today's Musicians

Early Worship: Holt Andrews; Marcia Andrews;
Contemporary Worship: Lisa Cunningham, piano/vocals; Kolby Carrouth, drums; Cooper Cecil, electric guitar; Landon Hammett, keyboard/vocals; Anna Harkey, violin; Corey McDaniels, bass guitar
Traditional Worship: Holt Andrews; Marcia Andrews; Chancel Choir

Calendar

January 15
Birthday of Martin Luther King Jr Celebrated
All Church Facilities Closed
United Way Day of Service

January 21
A Conversation with Jeffrey Blount

January 28
Congregational Meeting

January 31
Annual Meeting

Looking Forward

February 4
Scout Sunday

February 11
Youth Sunday

February 14
Ash Wednesday

February 25
Acts 2 Dinners: Supper and Service

March 24
Palm Sunday

March 28
Maundy Thursday

March 31
Easter

April 21
Confirmation Sunday

May 12
Mother's Day

May 19
Day of Pentecost

May 3-5
Congregational Retreat at Montreat

June 3-6
Vacation Bible School

Front Cover: "Backyard Fig Tree"
by Todd Berman

Parts of today's liturgy are from the Abingdon Worship Annual and A Declaration of Faith.

To Ponder Prayerfully

"We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality,
tied in a single garment of destiny.
Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

Ministers: All Members of the Church

We are a community of believers committed to "Glorifying God and Sharing Christ Together through Word and Deed."

Rev. Alan F. Dyer
Senior Pastor

Rev. John Daniel DeBevoise
Associate Pastor
Youth and Campus Ministries

Rev. L. Craig Foster
Associate Pastor Discipleship

Dr. Lewis F. Galloway
Interim Associate Pastor
for Congregational Care

Rev. Leslie A. Lang
Associate Pastor
Young Adults and Missions

Rev. Ansley B. Page
Pastoral Associate for Engagement

Holt Andrews
Pastoral Musician

Marcia Andrews
Associate Director of Music; Organist

Kara Clark
Director of Children's Ministries

Carrie Coleman
Youth Ministry Coordinator

Grace deMaine
Associate Director, Youth Ministry

Beth Cecil
Parish Nurse

Colleen Darrall
Director of Recreation

Pano Stathakis
Director of Hospitality

Kris Graham
Director of the Weekday School

Lisa Cunningham
Contemporary Worship Music Leader

Lee Raines
Facilities Administrator

Jim Pitts
Campus Safety and Services Manager

Lynise Clarke
Church Financial Officer

Monteigne Campbell
Office Manager and
Admin to the Senior Pastor

Shannon Hutcheson
Administrative Assistant
Children's and Adult Discipleship

Caroline Goodman
Communications Director

Ian Ritchings
Communications Coordinator

Cathy Rush
Receptionist and Admin
to Music and Mission

Joanie Shackleton
Administrative Assistant
Congregational Care and Deacons

Andy Mayfield
Grounds Manager

Judith Holbert
Tiffany Long
William Massey
Custodians

First Presbyterian Church
393 East Main Street
Spartanburg, SC 29302
(864) 583-4531
www.fpcspartanburg.org